

COMMERCE NEWS

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U.S. Senate Confirms Three for Positions at Commerce Department

The U.S. Senate today confirmed by voice vote David A. Sampson as Deputy Secretary, John J. Sullivan as General Counsel and William Jeffrey as Director for the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST).

“I applaud the Senate for confirming these three dedicated and capable public servants to critical areas in the Department. Their combined years of experience will further the Bush Administration’s pro-growth policies to create jobs, grow the economy and open new markets abroad.”

Sampson served as Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development. He previously served as President and Chief Executive Officer for the Arlington, Texas Chamber of Commerce. Earlier in his career, Dr. Sampson served as Chairman of the Texas Council on Workforce and Economic Competitiveness and as Vice Chair of the Texas Strategic Economic Development Planning Commission. He earned his bachelor's degree from David Liscomb University, his master's degree from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, and his Ph.D. from Abilene Christian University.

Sullivan served as Deputy General Counsel of the Department of Defense. Prior to that, he was a Partner in the Washington, D.C. law firm of Mayer, Brown, Rowe & Maw, LLP. During President George H. W. Bush's Administration, Mr. Sullivan worked in the Office of Legal Counsel at the Department of Justice. Earlier in his career, he was a Law Clerk for Justice David H. Souter, Supreme Court of the United States. Mr. Sullivan received a bachelor's degree from Brown University and a J.D. from Columbia University School of Law.

Jeffrey was Senior Director for Homeland and National Security and the Assistant Director for Space and Aeronautics at the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) within the Executive Office of the President. Dr. Jeffrey has been involved in federal science and technology programs and policy since 1988. His previous assignment was with the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) where he served as the Deputy Director for the Advanced Technology Office and Chief Scientist for the Tactical Technology Office. While at DARPA, Dr. Jeffrey developed research programs in communications, computer network security, novel sensor development, and space operations. Dr. Jeffrey received his Ph.D. in Astronomy from Harvard University and his B.S. in Physics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Dr. Jeffrey was born January 13, 1960.